

UNITED STATES AT WAR! JAPS BOMB OUR BASES

Hundreds of Casualties; U. S. Battleship Set Ablaze

AMERICA UNITES FOR THE GREAT STRUGGLE

Japanese warplanes left hundreds dead and wounded Sunday in attacks without warning against the Hawaiian islands, the Philippines and other American possessions throughout the Pacific.

Three hours later the Japanese government declared war on the United States and Great Britain.

Soon a second wave of Japanese bombers roared over Honolulu, the bomb-shocked capital of Hawaii. Simultaneously Japan struck at British Hong Kong, Singapore, the British Malay states and Thailand.

The surprise Japanese aggression, which the Washington government officially and unequivocally described as treacherous and utterly unprovoked, brought these blows against the United States and her allies, as summed up from official and unofficial reports:

1. Up to 350 United States soldiers killed and more than 300 wounded at Hickam field, army air base three miles northwest of Honolulu.
2. The United States battleship Oklahoma set afire at Pearl Harbor, the great naval base at Honolulu, and two other American ships in the harbor attacked.
3. Heavy damage to Honolulu residential districts, where there were unnumbered casualties.
4. Torpedoing of a lumber-laden United States army transport between Hawaii and San Francisco, Cal.
5. Bombing of points in the Philippine islands, with Manila, the capital, apparently escaping damage.
6. Capture of the United States Pacific islet of Wake and the bombing of the American island of Guam.
7. Seizure of the International Settlement at Shanghai, China; capture of the American gunboat Wake at Shanghai and destruction of the British gunboat Petrel nearby.

An electrified United States immediately united for the struggle ahead. President Roosevelt will address a joint session of congress today and is expected to ask for a declaration of war.

There was little news of U. S. defensive actions, except the report that a number of the attacking planes at Honolulu had been shot down in dogfights over the city; an unconfirmed report that a Japanese aircraft carrier had been sunk off Hawaii; and announcement that United States army and navy forces had started carrying out secret instructions long since issued to them in event of just such an emergency.

Britain to Act.

Britain summoned her parliament to meet today, probably to declare war on Japan in keeping with her pledge in the event of an attack on the United States.

The Dutch government in London, the Dutch East Indies, Canada and the little Central American government of Costa Rica quickly declared war on Japan. Mexico pledged full aid to the United States.

Germany officially and gleefully declared: "As a result of constantly increasing warmongering of the American president Roosevelt in recent weeks, the first clashes between Japanese and United States armed forces occurred today."

Battleship.

The Berlin radio quoted a Tokyo announcement that the United States battleship West Virginia had been sunk in an engagement between the Japanese and the United States and British navies.

There was no United States confirmation, just as there was no confirmation of a Tokyo radio report that the Oklahoma had been sunk.

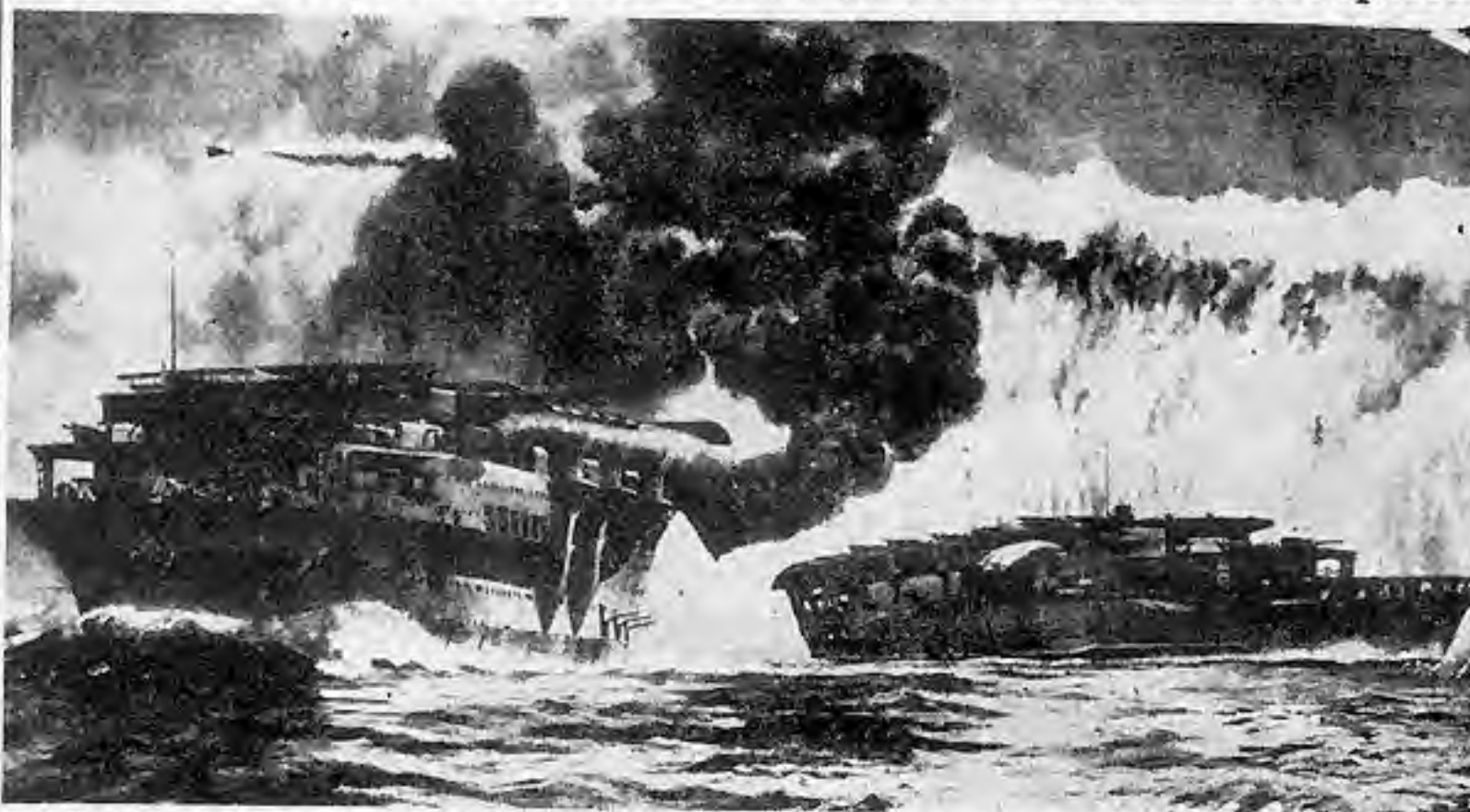
The Tokyo radio reported Japan had attacked Hong Kong, British India, and the British Malay states.

The British command at Singa-

apore, British's mighty naval base on the Malay peninsula, announced that Japanese troops had landed 300 miles to the north from five ships in the Gulf of Siam and were being engaged. Japanese planes bombed Singapore, causing a small loss of life and property damage.

Japanese troops have invaded Thailand (Siam), adjoining Japanese-occupied French Indo-

The Raid on U. S. Base at Pearl Harbor: Artist's Conception



This is the approximate scene at sea off the great United States base at Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian islands Sunday. Japanese bombing planes, based on aircraft carriers, took Nippon's war right into American waters, 3,500 miles from Japan, while Tokyo's envoys were still talking "reconciliation" in the state department at Washington, D. C. Japanese aircraft carriers are distinguished by low, horizontal smoke stacks. This artist's conception by Oscar Parkes was made in the early 1930s when the Kawa (left) and the Akagi were launched. In Wash-

ington, indignant Secretary of State Cordell Hull terminated his conference with the Japanese ambassadors Sunday by issuing the following statement in comment on a document handed him by Ambassador Nomura and Special Envoy Kurihara: "In all my 50 years of public service I have never seen a document that was more crowded with infamous falsehoods and distortions—infamous falsehoods and distortions on a scale so huge that I never imagined until today that any government on this planet was capable of uttering them."

China, the Tokyo radio reported. Bangkok, capital of Thailand, was reported bombed.

Japan said she moved to "maintain the independence of Thailand" and to "combat British troops which have entered from the Malaysian border."

The broadcast also said informed sources in Japan believed Germany would declare war on the United States within 24 hours.

The Tokyo radio also reported that 62 American soldiers had been killed and taken prisoner at Tientsin, in Japanese-occupied North China. The soldiers were said to be guards at the American consulate.

Wave after wave of Japanese planes swept over Oahu, principal island of Hawaii, beginning at 5:10 a. m. Sunday (10:40 p. m. Sunday, Iowa time), the attack continuing for an hour and 25 minutes.

Estimates of the number of planes involved ranged from 50 to 150.

The attack seemed to center on Hickam field and Honolulu, where the islands' heaviest fortifications are located.

The planes streamed through the sky from the southwest, their

Japan—

Continued on Page Two.

At a Glance

The War

Historical Sketches

Dec. 8, 1941.

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All But Two Iowans Ready For War Vote

From The Register's Washington, D. C. Bureau.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—With two exceptions all members of the Iowa delegation who could be reached Sunday are prepared to vote a declaration of war on Japan when a resolution is placed before the congress.

Exceptions are Representatives Thomas H. Martin (Rep., Iowa City), and William S. Jacobson (Dem., Clinton). Martin reserved judgment pending clarification of whether a declaration of war on Japan would automatically involve the country in war with Italy and Germany.

Jacobson said he wished to hear President Roosevelt's message before commenting.

Representative Henry C. Taft (Rep., Decatur) had not been reached for a statement. Other comments:

Senator Clyde L. Herring (Dem.): "Of course a resolution declaring a state of war to exist will pass, and, of course, I shall vote for it. I think it will pass unanimously. I hope people will now realize what a fine situation we would be in had we followed the advice of the Lindberghs, the Nyes and the Wheelers, and I wish they would vote against a declaration so the country could continue to see them in their true colors."

Senator Guy M. Gillette (Dem.): "I will support a declaration, of course. This is not the time to

Iowans—

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NO FACTS YET

ON CASUALTIES

FROM CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The war and navy departments issued the following announcement Sunday night:

"The war and navy departments tonight announced they are receiving many inquiries regarding personnel stationed in the Hawaiian island area."

"No information has been received about casualties."

"Families will be notified promptly as soon as definite word regarding casualties becomes available."

"Both departments request individual inquiries be not sent at this time."

Burn Japanese Code Books



Shortly after President Roosevelt reported Japan's attack on the United States Sunday, the Japanese embassy staff started burning codebooks and state papers on the grounds of the embassy at Washington, D. C. In New Orleans, La., a crowd of 300 booted as employees of the Japanese consulate there began burning papers in wire baskets in the consulate's back yard. A police guard was placed around the consulate.—WIREPHOTO (AP).

24-HOUR ARMS PRODUCTION DUE

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The

secretary of War Robert E. Patterson called Sunday night for production of all war munitions on a 24-hour basis.

The undersecretary is in charge of army procurement.

JAPS SPEAK OF 'GOOD MORALS' AS WAR RAGES

LOS ANGELES, CAL., Dec. 8.—The

National Broadcasting Co., listening post Sunday said the first Tokyo news broadcast on Monday morning, at 6:50 a. m. Tokyo time, made no mention of the Japanese attack in the Pacific and was followed by a lecture on "good morals" by a Tokyo university professor.

California on Alert for Any Raid Alarms

LOS ANGELES, CAL.—Air

raid listening devices went into action at scores of southern California defense factories Sunday, alert for any sign of a raid on this area, which contains the largest aggregation of Japanese in the nation.

Plans to take precautionary steps were the buzz aircraft factories, busily engaged in maximum capacity production of large bombers and fast fighting aircraft, including the sleek P-38 interceptors.

Brig. Gen. William O. Ryan, commanding the 4th Interceptor command, which embraces all of the southwest section of the United States and extends north to Oregon, immediately summoned all its men to "activate your observation posts immediately."

Gov. Culbert Olson's office at Sacramento announced late Sunday.

California—

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PRIVATE PLANES

ARE GROUNDED

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The

civil aeronautics authority issued orders Sunday night grounding all private airplanes in the United States and its possessions, except commercial airliners.

The CAA suspended temporarily all pilot licenses except those held by pilots on regular air lines. Robert Hinkley, chairman of the CAA air safety board, sent telegrams to the governors of the 48 states, Alaska and the Canal Zone asking them to assign police immediately to all known landing fields to protect facilities.

The order affects 48 private and commercial planes at the Des Moines municipal airport and about a dozen at Dodge airport,

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WAR MESSAGE BY ROOSEVELT SLATED TODAY

Congress Ready to Enter Conflict.

By Richard Wilson.
(The Register's Washington Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An extraordinary joint session of congress to convene today at 12:30 p. m. (11:30 a. m., Iowa time) will hear from the lips of President Roosevelt that America is at war with Japan.

The three major radio networks will broadcast the address.

Decision to call the joint session was reached at an unprecedented meeting of legislative leaders and the cabinet with the president at the White House Sunday night, a few hours after Japan had launched an attack on American naval positions in the Pacific.

At War With Axis.

A state of war exists between the United States and all the Axis powers. This was evident here, whatever may be the form of belligerency which will come after Mr. Roosevelt addresses congress.

There was little doubt the president will ask congress to recognize a condition that already exists, but the legislative leaders and members of the cabinet, on leaving the White House, refused to say what the president plans to say.

They declared they were not advised of the nature of the president's address, but Attorney General Francis Biddle revealed that "the chief asked us not to discuss it."

Receipt during the night or today by the American government of declarations that a state of war exists from Germany and Italy as well as from Japan would occasion little surprise in the state department.

Senator Tom Connally (Dem., Tex.), chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, announced that the extraordinary joint session will be held. This was all that could be said, he declared.

Attorney General Biddle pointed out that the existence of a state of war, and its recognition by congress, would bring into effect a number of emergency powers which could not otherwise be invoked.

Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn (Dem., Tex.), confirming Connally's announcement, gave emphasis to the fact that the United States does not yet have any official word that Japan has declared war on the United States, as reported by the Tokyo radio.

Nor does the United States have exact information on the reports that the Japanese have sunk two

U. S.—

Continued on Page Four.

Lindbergh Refuses

To Make Statement

WEST TISBURY, MASS., Dec. 8.—

Charles A. Lindbergh, visiting at Seven Gates farm in this Martha's Vineyard island village, refused Sunday night to see newspaper

men or accept any message.

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